

EDGECOMBE COUNTY DSS 2016 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Director's Corner



As we move from one season to the next we discover that changes take place. Even the trees know when it's time to shed the dead leaves, and begin to produce the beautiful green leaves which symbolizes a new season.

Since last Spring, some of you have had a season change. You may have had a baby, gotten married, move into a new position, divorced, lost a loved one, purchased a home, established a better relationship with a family member or friend, or just changed your hair style. All of these things move us from one state of being to another.

The families and individuals we serve go through the same changes as we do. When we go through our changes, we either expect people to "celebrate" or be "sympathetic" with us depending on what the change is. Everyone desires to have support and shown love during the "change" period.

We have experienced this in the last 8 months as we implemented the Fatherhood Initiative, "Show Me the Way" here at Edgecombe DSS. This program allows men who are not employed and is obligated to pay child support, to enter a free program that allows them a second chance. We have had over 135 men participate in the program and 83 have become employed! We are proud of them and grateful to have the opportunity to do something different that is making a big impact in the lives of the men in Edgecombe County. Sometimes, all a person need is a second chance that will allow them to "change" their course.

Betty Battle, Deputy Director, Bonnie Whitehurst, Social Work Supervisor and I attended the opening of the Edgecombe Youth Development Center, which will allow youth a "second" chance at life. The hope is for these youth to get the training, education and the social skills needed in order for them to come out of that system and become productive adults. Governor Pat McCrory stressed in his comments at the opening ceremony of the Edgecombe Youth Development Center that we have to prepare not only the youth, but the families they will return to.

Let us be mindful, that every little thing we do to make life better for a family or individual may mark the beginning of a life-time change for them.

I am so proud of each of you!!! Let's continue to work together and do our best to be of service to all mankind.

-Marva G. Scott, Director



Governor Pat McCrory

North Carolina Social Services Association (NCSSA)



NCSSA INFORMED, INVOLVED, IN STEP

NCSSA pursues excellence in social services delivery by supporting and educating employees, communities, and state and local agencies.

NCSSA is the only statewide professional organization that represents the interests and concerns of *all* social services employees in North Carolina. In addition to our focus on the professional development of its members, NCSSA works through the NC Social Services Consortium to advocate for all those served by the social services systems in North Carolina.



North Carolina
SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION
INFORMED • INVOLVED • IN STEP

Policy Initiatives

Legislative
Representation

Professional
Development

Networking
Opportunities

Scholarships

Discount Program

Life Insurance

SEE YOUR MEMBERSHIP
CARD TODAY OR JOIN
ONLINE AT
WWW.NCSSA.NET

Members, their spouses and dependents are eligible to apply for the NCSSA Annual Scholarship Program.

NC Vision Plan with EyeCare Centers of North Carolina is available to members AND their families

NCSSA members are among the first to receive updates on State initiatives.

Each member receives \$1,000 Accidental Death Life Insurance coverage under the Jim Willis Memorial Fund.

Discounts to Sea World, Disney, Busch Gardens, Kings Dominion, Carowinds, Water Country USA and a host of others are available to members!

For more information on joining NCSSA please contact Jessica Pittman 641-7631

**join
now!**

New Staff



Rebecca Carroll, Child Support



Natisha Murray, Child Support



Nellie Rodgers, Adult Medicaid



Danielle Williams, Adult Medicaid



Raitesha Neville, Children Services



John Jones, Maintenance



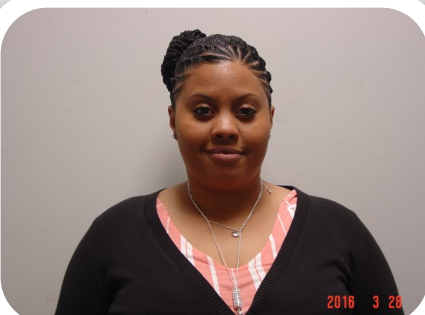
Jonah Williams, Adult Services



Stephanie West, Children Services



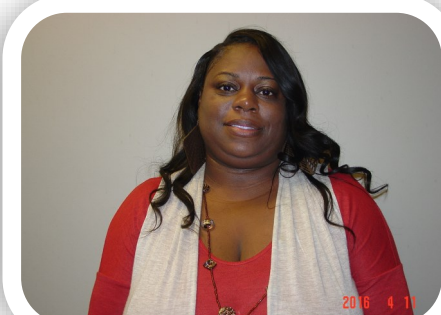
Kelly Whitehead, F&C Medicaid



Danyiel Pitt, Adult Medicaid



Antoinette Farrior, F&C Medicaid



Chiquita Sherrod, Child Support

CONGRATULATIONS!



DISTINGUISHED SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR NARKEISHA BRYANT

Outstanding Social Workers (From Left to Right)

Team III	Katisha Farmer
Team II	Iris Batts
Intake	Elizabeth Beasley
Team I-A	Kathy Brown
WFFA	Selma Staton
Daycare	Tawana White
Team I-B	Denotra Jones-Mills
Team IV	Jeffery Smith
Adult Services	Annetta Pitt-Brown (not pictured)



Staying Positive

1. Choose to have a great attitude - Successful people have chosen their attitude. Many folks tell me, “Gee, I’m usually in a good mood.” Catch the difference there? Right – ‘usually.’ You see, a mood is temporary and an attitude is permanent. What we have found is that successful people with a great attitude are able to get out of a bad mood quicker than those who don’t have a great attitude.

2. Visualize success - Successful people visualize themselves being successful. It doesn’t mean you’ll always get what you visualize, but it really helps to visualize what you need. Think about American Idol. Every one of those contestants firmly believe they have a chance of winning. And the successful cyclist Lance Armstrong, winner of 7 Tour de France, never saw himself losing. Visualizing success does help.

3. Energy, humor and enthusiasm - Successful people walk differently. Watch how people walk – even in the parking lot. It’s a special energy. Those who keep their head up high and have a gait that’s a tad faster than just lollygagging along seem to have the attitude that makes them successful. Show me the slow, drag your feet, head down walker and I’ll show you someone who, in all probability, isn’t as successful as he’d like to be. And we know from all the very successful comedians, successful people laugh a lot. They enjoy making others laugh. Laughter is contagious. Successful people with a good attitude tend to find humor in things quickly.

4. Resist negative tendencies - Successful individuals stay away from negative tendencies. Successful people with a good attitude resist becoming part of others negativity. They feel better for it and their attitude stays in check.

5. Be a ‘whatever it takes’ person - Seems it’s real easy to turn customers (or anyone) down and not make a second effort. Successful people are what we call double checkers. They look for positive alternatives. Their attitude tells them to double check the situation and offer a positive alternative.

6. Accept change - Things didn’t go your way? You couldn’t/didn’t get what you want? Successful people can accept change and move on or forward much better than others.

7. Be grateful for what you have - Those that are successful with a good attitude are most often void of jealousy. They share. They help. They donate. They are genuinely happy for others. Are you?

8. Smile - We know the most successful individuals with that great attitude SMILE – a lot!

© by Nancy Friedman, *The Telephone Doctor, Customer Service Training*



Edgecombe County DSS Fatherhood Graduation

"Show Me The Way"



Fourth Edgecombe County Fatherhood Graduation Class
February 17, 2016



Fifth Edgecombe County Fatherhood Graduation Class
March 30, 2016



Speaker at the 5th Edgecombe County Fatherhood Graduation Class:
Congressman G.K. Butterfield

Pictured from left to right: Representative Shelly Willingham, Congressman G. K. Butterfield, Marva G. Scott, Director and Judge William Farris



K.N.I.T TEENS

Our mission is to motivate, empower, and encourage teenagers between the ages of 12-18 through mentoring and various other resources. After a meeting with our director Mrs. Marva Scott we brought to her attention that we would like to start a program with the purpose of increasing the achievement levels of disadvantaged teenagers. This program will assist in helping teenagers with college prep, job prep, mentoring and various other resources will be used. The acronym K.N.I.T stands for Knowledge Networking Intelligence Teaching. With the help from three young ladies Kortia Morning, Natisha Murray, and Taisheka Pittman the group K.N.I.T was founded. Our ultimate goal is to show our teenagers the endless opportunities that the world offers, and to provide teens with a safe place to express themselves. Our program will be tying into other programs such as “New Generation Leaders” teaming up with Ms. Jamilla Hawkins, “Links” and also our very own “Fatherhood Initiative Program”. On March 21, 2016 we made a presentation to the DSS Advisory Board and supervisors present. They were very impressed with all of our research and ideas. K.N.I.T Teens projected start date is June 18, 2016.

-Written by Kortia Morning



On March 21, 2016, Commissioner Viola Harris, DSS Advisory Board Chair donated \$100 to help support the K.N.I.T group.

Community Events



On March 17, 2016, The Edgecombe County Adult Services Unit participated in the annual Community Easter Event.

The event was hosted at the Panola Heights Community Center where 87 seniors in the Edgecombe area came and enjoyed breakfast, games and an Easter Egg Hunt & Program.



Staff Recognition



"Great Job Ladies coordinating the 4th Fatherhood Graduation!" - Betty Battle, Deputy Director



"Great Job with the 2016 ME Review Monitoring Beverly!" - Betty Battle, Deputy Director

Staff Corner



Brenda Daniels would like to give recognize to her daughter Kimberly Dickens on her service project. Kimberly is collecting water to send to Flint, Michigan to support the Flint community who has limited clean water supply. Kimberly has collected over 5,256 bottled water. Kimberly is also graduating from Edgecombe Community College on May 7th and from Early College on May 26th. Way to Go Kim!!



"I would like to invite anyone who is interested in improving their physical health to ride your bicycles @ MLK park in Rocky Mount @ 10 am on Saturday mornings. If you are interested in participating email me @ kderek50@yahoo.com."

-Derek Kelly

"I'd like to report that my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Daniels celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on March 3, 2016 with a dinner given by their children and god-children."

-Patricia Jones



"Congratulations to Denise McKnight on making the President's List Honors at Kaplan University!" -Bobbie Williams

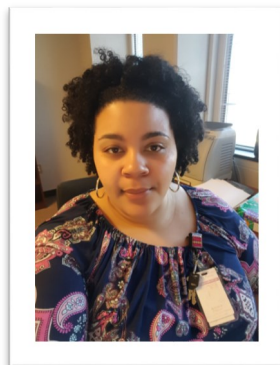


"We had staff attend Triple P Parenting classes to be certified practitioners of the Triple P Parenting program (positive parenting program). We attended on March 15,16, and 17. Pre-Accreditation is on the 29th of March and accreditation is on April 7th. They will all be able to provide parenting to our clients in Child Welfare. Left to Right – Iris Batts, Tuekellia Jones, Gracie Goss, Alicia Lewis, and Jeffery Smith. Not pictured is Oglatha Woodard and myself."

-Anna Davis Perry

"March 22, 2016 made 12 years that I have been employed with Edgecombe County DSS!" - Kimberly Dozier

Congratulations to Rocky Mount Child Support for an excellent quality review for March 2016. The six records that were pulled for the monitoring all scored 100% with a monthly average of 100%.
-Bobbie Williams



Editor: Jessica Pittman



"My daughter, Jodi D'Agostino, graduated with an MBA at the Army Navy Club in Washington DC on 03/24/16! I'm one very proud momma!!" -Trudy Hawley

(Jodi D'Agostina is third from the left)